

Consumer Protection Act, 1986

*191. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a high power Working Group to examine the suggestions for making the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 more effective and purposeful;

(b) if so, the date of constitution and the composition of the Group;

(c) the terms of reference of the Group; and

(d) the time-bound programme to obtain, examine and implement the recommendations of the Group by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The Central Government has constituted a high power Working Group under the aegis of Central Consumer Protection Council on 7.1.1991 to suggest suitable amendments to make Consumer Protection Act, 1986 and MRTP Act, 1969 more effective and purposeful. The Working Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Minister incharge of Food and Civil Supplies, Government of West Bengal. Other members are Minister incharge of Food and Civil Supplies, Government of Tamil Nadu or his representative two Members of Parliament, representatives of Central Government trade and industry and consumer organisations. Initially the Working Group was to submit its report within four months. However, its term was extended twice by four months each. The present tenure of the Working Group will expire on 7.1.1992.

(d) So far, the Working Group has held

three meetings. The final meeting of the Working Group will be held on 6.12.1991 when the report is expected to be finalised. Thereafter its recommendations will be discussed in the meeting of the Central Consumer Protection Council which will make suitable recommendations to the Central Government for amending the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

National Commission on Rural Labour

*192 SHRI BHUBANESHWAR;
PRASAD MEHTA;
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Rural Labour chaired by Dr.C.H. Hanumanth Rao has since submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). The National Commission on Rural Labour (NCRL) has submitted its report on 31st July, 1991. Broadly, the NCRL has highlighted the need for achievement of two major goals for the rural labour namely improvement in their levels of living and ensuring their effective participation in the developmental process. To achieve this, the NCRL has emphasised further strengthening and improvement, *inter-alia* of land base; agricultural growth, employment guarantee programme, Infrastructure for rural industries, human resource development and provision of basic needs, social security, organisation aspects of rural labour and effective participation of rural labour in the